

Amendments to the Specification

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 30 and ending at page 30, line 32 and replace it with the following paragraph:

Preferred transgenic (obtained by gene technology) plants or plant varieties to be treated according to the invention include all plants obtained by gene technology modification of genetic material which imparts to these plants particularly advantageous valuable properties ("traits"). Examples of such properties are better plant growth, increased tolerance to high or low temperatures, increased tolerance to drought or towards water and soil salt content, increased flowering performance, easier harvesting, faster ripening, higher crop yields, higher quality and/or higher nutritional value of the harvest products, higher storage capacity and/or processability of the harvest products. Further and especially emphasised examples of such properties are an increased defence of the plants towards animal and microbial pests, and towards insects, mites, phytopathogenic fungi, bacteria and/or viruses and an increased tolerance of the plants towards specific herbicidal active substances. As examples of transgenic plants, mention is made of important cultivated plants such as cereals (wheat, rice), maize, soya, potato, cotton, tobacco, rape and fruit plants (with the fruits apples, pears, citrus fruits and grapes), with maize, soya, potato, cotton, tobacco and rape being particularly emphasised. Properties ("traits") particularly emphasised include the increased defence of the plants toward insects, arachnids, nematodes and snails as a result of toxins produced in the plants, especially those produced in the plants (hereinafter called "Bt plants") by the genetic material from *Bacillus Thuringiensis* (e.g. by the genes CryIA(a), CryIA(b), CryIA(c), CryIIA, CryIIIA, CryIIIB2, Cry9c Cry2Ab, Cry3Bb and CryIF and combinations thereof). Properties ("traits") especially emphasised include the increased defence of plants towards fungi, bacteria, viruses through systemically acquired resistance (SAR), systemin, phytoalexins, elicitors as well as resistance genes and suitably expressed proteins and toxins. Properties ("traits") especially emphasised include the increased tolerance of the plants toward certain herbicidal active substances, for example, imidazolinones, sulphonyl ureas, glyphosate or phosphinotricin (e.g. "PAT"-Gene). The genes imparting the desired properties ("traits") in each case can also occur in combination with one another in transgenic plants. As examples of "Bt plants" mention may be made of maize varieties, cotton

varieties, soya varieties and potato varieties which are sold under the tradenames YIELD GARD® (e.g. maize, cotton, soya), ~~KnockOut®~~ KNOCKOUTT® (e.g. maize), ~~StarLink®~~ STARLINK® (e.g. maize), ~~Bollgard®~~ BOLLGARD® (cotton), ~~Nucoton®~~ NUCOTON® (cotton) and ~~NewLeaf®~~ NEWLEAF® (potato). As examples of herbicide-tolerant plants mention may be made of maize varieties, cotton varieties and soya varieties which are sold under the tradenames ~~Roundup Ready®~~ ROUNDUP READY® (tolerance towards glyphosates e.g. maize, cotton, soya), ~~Liberty Link®~~ LIBERTY LINK® (tolerance towards phosphinotricin, e.g. rape), IMI® (tolerance towards imidazolinones) and STS® (tolerance towards sulphonyl ureas, e.g. maize). As herbicide-resistant (cultivated conventionally for herbicide tolerance) plants, mention may also be made of varieties (e.g. maize) sold under the name ~~Clearfield®~~ CLEARFIELD®. Naturally these statements also apply to varieties of plants developed in the future or coming onto the market in the future having these genetic properties ("traits") or those developed in the future.